

Remarks

In the Office Action mailed 20 July 2004, claims 1-14 and 48 were allowed, claims 20-27 and 30-47 were rejected under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting, and claims 28 and 29 were objected to. The specific grounds for rejection and objection and Applicants' response thereto are set out in detail below.

Rejections for Obviousness-Type Double Patenting

Claims 20-27 and 30-47 are rejected under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-7 of U.S. Patent No. 6,361,774, which Applicants believe the Examiner mis-cited as 6,361,744. Applicants submit herewith a Terminal Disclaimer to obviate this double-patenting rejection with respect to U.S. Patent No. 6,361,774.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 20-27 and 30-47 satisfy the requirements under 35 USC § 101. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Objected Claims

Claims 28-29 are objected to as "being dependent upon a rejected base claim." Applicants have amended claims 28 and 29 to independent form, as recommended by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 28-29 are now allowable and withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks and amendments, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below if the Examiner believes such would be helpful in advancing the application to issue.

If any additional fees are required for the filing of this paper, Applicants authorize the Commissioner to charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 08-1641.

Respectfully submitted,

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